THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2144 *Friday, Oct.* 24, 1828. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE *Hypocrite, Deaf as a Post,* and *Lock and Key,* were acted, last night, to a very thin audience. Liston's Sermon was encored.

Covent Garden Theatre.

THE Play last night at this house was *A New Way to Pay Old Debts,* and seldom have we seen surpassed the *Sir Giles Overreach,* of Mr. Kean: the part is a first rate one with this gentleman, and we do not wonder at it, for it is one in which he is certainly without a rival; like the *Rienzi* of Mr. Young, he has made the part his own.—Mr. Kean was quite himself last night; the concluding scene, which overthrows all his ambitious views, and blasts his plotting scheme, was given with much force. Mr. Meadows played *Marrall* respectably—Mr. C. Kemble was the *Wellborn* of the evening, and played the part admirably; his gentlemanly bearing, his good natured recklessness and easy temper in adversity, were just what the author intended to depict. *Wellborn,* though we first see him in an almost threadbare state, is still a gentleman, and fully proves the discernment of the wealthy *Lady Allworth,* in selecting him for the object of her patronage, and when by the discovery of the false document substituted by *Marrall,* for the real one, he is restored to his birth-right; the ready forgiveness he accords to his avaricious uncle, gives the best assurance possible, that he is worthy of possessing his recovered estate.

Miss Lacy acted *Lady Allworth* extremely well; it is a character of not much importance, but the lady made the most of it:—she is decidedly an acquisition to this Theatre. The *Justice Greedy,* of Mr. Blanchard, was very good. After the Play, the Opera of *Carron Side* was repeated, Miss Byfeld making her second appearance in the character of *Blanch Mackay;* some little time has elapsed since her debut, she having been *indisposed.* We were glad to see, last night, that she is quite recovered—no traces of indisposition were apparent. The music of this Opera is decidedly below mediocrity; we were not, therefore, prepared for the sensation Miss Byfeld created throughout the house; she was encored in all her songs, no slight compliment to so young a debutante; we consider her as the most successful aspirant for musical fame that we have heard for some time:—the music in *Carron Side* is not exactly suited to her style, which approaches to that of Miss Stephens: we should much like to hear her in *Rosina.*—Miss Byfeld's acting is also much better than many of our female singers; in the song where she discovers her love for *Allan Lindsay,* the gradual decrease of voice, till her feelings overpower her, and she faints

away, was exceedingly natural, and well managed.—We were glad to observe, Miss Byfeld was warmly received. Mr. Wood played *Hector Lindsay*, and Mr. Bianchi Taylor *Allan*: the latter was any thing but happy in his songs, and the audience were, we strongly suspect, pretty generally inclined to tell him so; however, he is young, and may improve.—This very dull piece *cannot* run long.—The house was full.

Robberies at the Theatres.—Notwithstanding the number of Police Officers, and constables, stationed about the different Theatres both inside and out, to prevent the admission of improper characters, several robberies have lately taken place. On Monday evening, Mr. Granrier Antuzines, a foreign gentleman, was robbed of his valuable gold watch, gold chain and seals, at Covent Garden Theatre; and Mr William Chaffers was also robbed at the pit entrance of the Theatre, the same evening, of a valuable diamond pin. On Saturday evening, two gentlemen had their pockets picked of their purses at the Surrey Theatre: one purse contained 10 shillings, and the other a sovereign and three shillings. The pickpockets had placed the empty purse of one gentleman into the other gentleman's pocket.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday—I shall be found seated at the *Diorama*, in the Regent's Park, anxiously admiring the two new Views, the charming Village of Unterseen, and the Cloisters of St. Wandrille—quite bewitching! About two, I pop in to see Mr. Burford's Marine Panorama of the *Battle of Navarino*, Strand—awfully grand—the din of war and conflagration is truly alarming—Britons bulwark—love our navy. On my return, I view his Exhibitions of Rio Janeiro, the City of St. Sebastian, Genoa, &c. Leicester Square.

On Tuesday, I wander through the various Departments of that popular and attractive Lounge, the Royal Bazaar, 73, Oxford Street, and view The British Diorama, The Descent from the Cross, and the French Child, with the singular inscription of '*Napoleon, Empereur*,' in its eyes.

On Thursday evening, I visit the Argyll Rooms, to wonder and laugh at Messrs. Maffey's extraordinary Exhibition—*Arlequin, Juge et Partie*; the comic Scene, *Le Dejeune d'Arlequin*, and the *Bombarding of Algiers*, &c.—crowded audience—their applause amazing.

On Friday, I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in Regent Street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Workshop. Afterwards, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

On Saturday, after dinner, Mrs. Pry amuses me with neighbouring tattle, while we sip charming Port or Sherry, had from the cheap London and Westminster Wine and Spirit Company, Strand.

Most Evenings I tear myself away from the society of my charming spouse, to indulge in the most delicious Cigars and Coffee in London, at that select and convenient Lounge for Theatre-goers, and Gentlemen of leisure, the Cigar Divan, *King Street, Covent Garden*.—but I intrude, beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

P. S. I met Sidney Waller, the successful author of '*Love from the Heart*,' which delighted all hearts at the Manchester Festival—shewed me a full length portrait of the fascinating Love, as *Don Giovanni*—good likeness—subscribed for a copy, and wished him success.

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Comedy of

THE RIVALS.

Sir Anthony Absolute, Mr GRAY,
(From the Theatre Royal, York, his first appearance on this Stage)
Faulkland, Mr WARDE,
Captain Absolute.....Mr C. KEMBLE,
Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Mr POWER,
Acres..... Mr J. REEVE,
(His first appearance this season)
Fag, Mr RAYMOND, Coachman, Mr ATKINS,
David, Mr MEADOWS,
James, Mr F. Sutton, William, Mr Heath.
Mrs Malaprop, Mrs DAVENPORT,
Lydia Languish.....Madame VESTRIS,
Julia, Miss JARMAN,
Lucy, Mrs J. HUGHES, Jenny, Mrs BROWN.

To conclude with, (35th time) the Farce of

The Invincibles.

The Overture & Music composed and selected by A. Lee.
General Verdun, Mr FAWCETT,
Chevalier Dorval, Mr EVANS, O'Slash, MrPOWER,
Captain Florvil, Mr WOOD,
Brusque, Mr BARTLEY, Tactique, Mr MEADOWS,
Frivole, Mr HORREBOW, Porter, Mr ISAACS,
General's Servants, Mess. Goodson, Birt, Beale, &c.
Officers, Mess. Henry, Mears, Tinney, Irwin, &c.
Victoire, Madame VESTRIS,
Juliette, Miss CAWSE, Sophie, Miss J. SCOTT,
Therese, Miss EGAN, Emilie, Miss REED,
Elise, Miss GRIFFITHS, Desire, Mrs BROWN.

To-morrow, Charles the Second, The Step Mother, The Bottle Imp, and Bombastes Furioso.

XUM

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (8th time) a new Historical Tragedy, called

RIENZI.

Cola Rienzi.....Mr YOUNG,
Stephen Colonna, Mr YOUNGE,
Angelo Colonna, Mr COOPER, Ursini, Mr MUDE,
Sevelli, Mr AITKEN, Cafarello, Mr LEE,
Frangipani, Mr BLAND, Alberti, Mr THOMPSON.
Paolo, Mr YARNOLD, Camillo, Mr C. JONES,
Citizens, Messrs. Webster, Salter, Honner, East, &c.
Berta, Mrs GEESIN,
Lady Colonna.....Mrs FAUCIT,
Attendants, Miss PINCOTT and Mrs WEBSTER,
Claudia.....Miss PHILLIPS.

After which,

A New Divertisement.

Principal Dancers,—Mr OSCAR BYRNE,
Miss ANGELICA, and Miss BISEKI, (from the King's Theatre,)
Master WIELAND and Master CHIKINI,
Misses RYAL, MACDONALD, CHIKINI, LANE, PEARCE, &c.

To conclude with, (first time,) a petite Comedy, entitled

The Youthful Queen,

Christine of Sweden.

Count de Oxenteirn..... Mr W. FARREN,
Steinberg, Mr JONES,
Frederick Bury..... Mr COOPER.
Christine, Miss E. TREE, Emma, Miss GRANT.

To-morrow, The Clandestine Marriage, and other Entertainments.